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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

Letter dated 5 August 1988 from the Permanent Representative of
Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the
Special Committee

With reference to aide-mémoire 26/88/Add.2, dated 5 August 1988, of the Special Committee concerning requests from persons to appear before the Special Committee as petitioners to speak about the so-called question of East Timor, I wish to convey the position of my delegation as follows:

The process of decolonization in East Timor has been carried out in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), thus terminating the colonial status of the former Territory. Consequently, the integration of East Timor into the Republic of Indonesia was formalized on 17 July 1976 as its twenty-seventh province with equal rights and obligations as the other provinces.

In view of the above, my delegation reiterates its view that consideration of the question by the Committee is inappropriate and would constitute interference in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of a sovereign member State. Moreover, any granting of a hearing to any petitioner before the Committee would serve no useful purpose whatsoever.

My delegation, therefore, expresses its strong opposition to the participation of the petitioners in the deliberations of the Committee.

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I would appreciate if this letter could be circulated as an official document of the Special Committee.

(Signed) Nana S. SUTRESNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
